

# *Fox Tails*

*By Rory*

“Boom Boom!” The sound of the gun shot rang in Lulu’s ears as she raced across the field. She felt fear and shock when she saw a bullet shoot past her. Even though she had done this so many times it still scared her. Finally, she got back to the forest and the birds sang. All the trouble she had gone through was worth it because she had kits. She was raising them all on her own, but she didn't mind. She emerged into the clearing where her kits were playing. Her strong boys were Forest and River. Her brave girls were Song and Star. Each one was special and unique in their own way.

The fox kits didn’t know the dangers of the world. All they did was play, but they were only five weeks old. When they saw mom with a fresh kill they ran yapped in excitement. LuLu was tired taking care of Kits. It was hard work. But at the end of the day she loved having them by her side. Star was awoken by the morning light she hopped out of the den. She sat watching the big ball of fire that mom called the sun rise. She stayed that way for a while. “HAAAAAA ” Yapped star. Forest had pounced on her. Why did she let her guard down? “Oh, you're going down for that!”

“Try me?” challenged Forest. They hopped on each other biting and wrestling then they heard, “Oh you two stop fighting. You’re going to hurt yourselves,” laughed Mother. Song and River hopped out not wanting to miss any of the fun. That's when they heard footsteps coming towards them.

Two figures came out of the forest each holding a gun, “There she is, the one who is eating my chickens!” said the big man.

“Don’t worry we will take care of her,” said the other big man. LuLu knew what she had to do to protect her kits. “Little ones when I yap three time we run,” whispered mom. “Yap Yap Yap!” That's when they bolted for the forest and as they raced through the woods gunshots rang behind

them. They ran and ran until they lost them. The kits didn't know what was going on so she led them to a cave where they could hide and sleep. They had been running all day and they were tired. Star was scared she didn't know what to do one minute she was playing and the next she was running for her life. As she huddled up next mom she wondered what to do now? light flooded the cave and woke Star from her sleep. For a moment she had wondered if it had all been a bad dream. She slowly came out of the cave, mom and her siblings were eating breakfast. Mom had caught a bird and was feeding them. When everyone was done eating mom called out "now my kits I know you are scared but everything will be alright I know where we can go"

When LuLu was just a kit, her family was killed by a mean person. All except Lulu she was so little in the big world and she was scared. She ran for days and days not knowing where to go, only surviving on mice and plants. She drank from rivers and from lakes but she never drank from the black water. Her mother had told her about the black water she said it tasted like dirt and would make you sick. One day she was so thirsty and the black river was right there it wouldn't hurt to just have a sip right. As soon as she tasted the water she wanted more. It tasted horrible, but she was too thirsty to care. She lapped up water till she was full. The next thing she knew she was sick and falling asleep.

She woke up on a pile of blankets with a girl staring down. The girl nursed Lulu back to health. Over time Lulu began to like this girl. She figured out that the name was Josie and she called her Lulu. She helped Lulu get strong enough to survive on her own in the wild. A year passed and Lulu was back in nature one of the last things Josie had said to her was come back if you need help. So, Lulu had this memory of Josie and her house and feeling safe and she wanted to return there with her kits.

She felt like it was time to go home. They traveled for a day searching but Lulu knew the way. One day on the way they hadn't drank in two days and they were thirsty. There it was in the black river, the same one she had gotten sick by when she was a kit. She knew better but her kits didn't. They raced toward the river "Stop!" called out LuLu. So the kits didn't drink. They walked a little more and then there it was Josie's home. And there in the front sat Josie. Lulu yapped and Josie looked at her .

“Lulu is that you?” asked Josie. Lulu yapped again. “Oh, Lulu! It is you and you have kits. Come inside!” That night as she was huddled up with her kits she knew she had found home.